

## CLAIMS

1. An external preparation for skin, which comprises a multi-branched polysaccharide derivative with multi-branched polysaccharide skeleton consisting of saccharides as constituent units, wherein at least one of hydroxyl(OH) groups in the multi-branched polysaccharide skeleton is substituted by OR wherein R represents a hydrogen atom, a hydrocarbon having 1 to 30 carbon groups or a hydrocarbon having 1 to 30 carbon groups which has hetero atom.
2. The external preparation for skin according to claim 1, wherein the multi-branched polysaccharide skeleton comprises a polymer consisting of monomers of anhydrosaccharide and/or anhydrosaccharide derivative in which at least one hydroxyl(OH) group is substituted by OR wherein R represents a hydrogen atom, a hydrocarbon having 1 to 30 carbon groups or a hydrocarbon having 1 to 30 carbon groups which has hetero atom.
3. The external preparation for skin according to claim 2, wherein the anhydrosaccharide or the anhydrosaccharide moiety in the anhydrosaccharide derivative is at least one compound selected from the group consisting of 1,6-anhydrosaccharide, 1,4-anhydrosaccharide, 1,3-anhydrosaccharide, 1,2-anhydrosaccharide and 5,6-anhydrosaccharide.
4. The external preparation for skin according to claim 2, wherein the polymer is obtained by cation polymerization or anion polymerization.
5. The external preparation for skin according to claim 1,

wherein the branching degree of the multi-branched polysaccharide is 0.05 to 1.00.

6. The external preparation for skin according to any one of  
5 claims 1 to 5, wherein the amount of the multi-branched polysaccharide contained therein is 0.1 to 80 mass %.

7. A cosmetic comprising the external preparation for skin according to any one of claims 1 to 6.